China's Assistance to Pakistan

2003. PROF. A. LAKSHMISAGAR:
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of China's assistance to Pakistan to build up its air power particularly at the time of tensions at the Indo-Pak borders;

(b) .whether the issue was discussed with the Chinese premier during his visit to the country; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto stating its reflection on the Indo-China friendly relations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) to (c) Government remains concerned at certain aspects of the China-Pakistan relationship which adversely affects our security. This includes Sino-Pak Defence Cooperation including in the nuclear weapons and missile development programme. We have made known our concerns to the Chinese side. Government remains vigilant and takes all necessary and appropriate measures to safeguard the sovereignty, territorial integrity and security of India.

Lower Labour Cost

2004. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether a World Bank study recently conducted on the investment climate in India reveals that India's advantage of lower labour cost is neutralized by its lower productivity;

(b) whether the study also recorded variations on value added per worker across the States with States having better investment climate enjoys higher labour productivity;

(c) whether under the "value added per worker" category India is far below the other countries but in the Value added per unit of labour cost India is at par with other countries; and